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SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR :—" Do not the Government consider that there is an acute shortage of cotton seeds in the Province at present, and will they consider the urgent necessity of importing them from other Provinces? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" If the Government are informed of the shortage, they will adopt the procedure of buying cotton seeds from outside the Province and distribute them to the deficit areas."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Cannot the surplus cotton seeds available in the Bellary district be transported to the Tanjore district? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The surplus districts have been asked to supply them to the deficit districts if the demand is made by the Collector of the deficit district."

Employees in State Transport Bus Service.

* 171 Q.—ABDUL LATIFF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have supplied uniforms to drivers and conductors employed in the State Transport buses plying in the City of Madras;

(*b*) if so, the number of such sets supplied to each employee;

(*c*) the quantity of cloth used for making each such set; and

(*d*) whether the cloth used is mill-made, handloom or khodi?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" (*a*) Both the drivers and conductors employed in the Government Bus Service are supplied with uniform at State cost;

" (*b*) Two sets are supplied to each employee;

" (*c*) The quantity of cloth used for each ranges from 7 to 8 yards including sash, according to the individuals concerned including cap;

" (*d*) The cloth used is mill-made (khaki obtained from B. & C. Mills, Madras)."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know, Sir, how the Government who are wedded to the policy of khadi, have allowed mill cloth to be used by its servants?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" The Government are at the same time committed to the policy of freedom of choice and so far as khadi cloth is concerned, hon. Members are aware that a certain quota of handspun yarn should be provided before khadi could be purchased. The Government are implementing an intensive campaign for the propagation of khadi and when that bears fruition, we hope and trust that the position will be improved and that the Government will be able to supply khadi to all its employees."

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SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know, why Government cannot purchase khadi and supply it to these conductors? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" If they could produce sufficient quota of handspun yarn, we shall do so, Sir."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—' May I know why these conductors have been allowed 16 yards of mill cloth for each conductor and driver, when the Government have allowed only 5 yards to other people? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" They are given two sets of uniforms of 7 to 8 yards, Sir."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know why exemption cannot be sought for from the A.I.S.A. for purchase of khadi cloth without the production of yarn? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" I do not know whether it will be proper for the Government to apply for relaxation of the general rules, Sir."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" When the Government thought that more than five yards of mill cloth should not be given to other people, how could they give 16 yards to each conductor and bus driver? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" This State uniform has to be uniform, so far as the individual is concerned. If they are given 8 yards, it means 5 yards of mill cloth and 3 yards of handloom cloth."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Does not the Government think that the same quantity of cloth is necessary for other people also? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" The Government are implementing a policy in order to enable people to get more cloth."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I take it, Sir, that the Government are going to increase the mill cloth quota? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" As soon as sufficient mill cloth becomes available."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Will the Government instruct these people that they should only have 5 yards of mill cloth and for the rest they should go in for handloom cloth? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" The Government do not want to dictate people in the matter; but I do not know whether it is a question of economy that they have been allowed so much mill cloth."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know, Sir, what is the reason for discarding khadi? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" I have already given my answer to this question, Sir."